

The Fireman's Journal

AND MILITARY GAZETTE.

MARCUS D. BORUCK, Editor.

SAN FRANCISCO

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1888.

When life is drawing to a close, and the pains and weariness of a sick bed are about to be exchanged for the repose and quiet of the grave, there is nothing upon which the drooping spirit dwells with more tender anxiety than the scene of his final resting-place. Those who breathe their last sigh, surrounded by weeping friends, amid the comforts of a home, are wont to make one last dying request, that their bodies may be buried in some favored spot which they have chosen—mayhap in happier and more healthful hours. However much a man, while in the possession of robust health, may boast that he cares not what becomes of his body, after life has departed, because it would then be insensible of pain and unconscious of any enormity that might be committed upon it.—In the solemn hour of the mortal throes, his departing soul is soothed by the hope that his remains will be deposited in the tomb by friendly hands, and that his mortal part shall remain undisturbed until called by the last trump to join its immortal in another world. At this awful moment, even the most dissolute "babbles greenfields," and the more refined, pleases himself with the belief that his sepulchre shall be where he may draw the drapery of his couch about him, and lie down to pleasant dreams, where weeping willows shall drop over his monument, and sweet murmuring streams forever sing his requiem. The Ancients were peculiarly sensitive upon this subject, and the Classic heroes of heathen poets die, exhorting their companions to pay the usual funeral rites to their "manes." The American Indians guard their cemeteries as holy places, and often leave their favorite hunting-grounds, their wigwags, and even their living friends, with far less reluctance than the resting-place of their dead. Even the poor Digger, driven by the whites from his levee, streams, and forests, or returns to celebrate funeral honors to his dead ancestors. The Turks keep a lamp constantly burning upon the tombs of their departed relatives, and the sentimental French decorate theirs with crosses and garlands.

But it is reserved for the people of San Francisco to display upon this subject a degree of apathy and indifference, unequalled in any time or nation. First, a fifty-vara lot, upon a bleak hill-side, was appropriated as a burial ground; but soon the dead deposited there were ruthlessly made to give place to a brick-yard, and their mouldering bones were removed to Yerba Buena Cemetery, a spot scarcely less unattractive and unsuitable. Situated amid the sand-hills and unbrambles of the suburbs of the city it is a mere Potters Field. Even the Chinese abhor it, and remove the bodies of their dead as speedily as possible, to send them over miles of ocean to be deposited in the tombs of their friends.—Dready indeed must have been the anticipations of one who died with the assurance that such a wretched spot should be his last home.

The enterprise of the Lone Mountain Cemetery Company, the community is indebted for a place of burial, which bids fair in time to rival the more celebrated Cemeteries of the Atlantic States; and to the generosity of Messrs. Gray & Austin, of that same Company, are the Firemen of San Francisco indebted for a private Cemetery of their own. But how has that noble donation been received? It will be remembered that one of the conditions upon which it was made, was that it should be enclosed within six months from the date of the deed. That time has more than elapsed, and not the first piece of wooden or iron fence has yet been raised. Shame on you, Firemen! This is not showing a proper appreciation of the gift. It is ungrateful to the donors. It is disrespectful to the dead. We congratulate ourselves much upon having obtained the lot, and believed that every fireman would make it his peculiar pride and pleasure to beautify and adorn it. Already did we dream of a San Francisco Fireman's Cemetery, which should equal, in the taste and richness of its decorations, the far-famed Fireman's Cemeteries, which are enclosed within the hallowed precincts of Greenwood, Laurel Hill, and Greymount—the costliness of whose monuments and funeral memorials challenge the admiration of the numerous frequenters of those celebrated Cities of the Dead. But how has that dream been realized? How those hopes disappointed? Out of 1014 members, which the Fire Department of our city now numbers, only fifteen have as yet subscribed anything towards it. We have put their names at the top of our first column, where they stand like a band of brave pioneers in a good cause. Hoping, from week to week, that the list would be increased by others, we have let it remain; but, as at each issue our eye has fallen upon the same honored names, we have felt disappointed and mortified. Proud that there were at least so many generous souls in our ranks, and mortified that there are no more. How long shall this be said? Fire on you, boys! Have you no more regard—no kinder thought—for the memory of your dead comrades—comrades in a thousand joys and perils—than to leave their place of sepulchre in its present unprotected condition? Give something!—If it be only a little—give what you can, every man of you; and thus we may raise a fund to construct a cemetery worthy of the intention of the donors, worthy of San Francisco firemen. The whole amount intended for this purpose, both what has been received and that subscribed, does not exceed \$670, which is barely sufficient to defray the expenses of a wooden railing—to say nothing of an iron one, which would be far preferable.

At a meeting of the Board of Delegates, on the 10th ult., upon the motion of Mr. Cobb, a resolution was passed, appropriating for this purpose the sum of \$200, from the fund of the Board. This, together with the amount above named, will make \$870; yet even it is far from sufficient. It was resolved, when the matter of the Cemetery was first talked of, that it should be paid for by the firemen themselves, and that no event should recur to be had to outside aid. We hope that this resolution will be strictly adhered to, that every fireman will do what he can for its maintenance. In a matter of this kind, we should be ashamed to call upon outsiders. Many generous friends have already munificently responded at the first mention of the subject. Let there be no further appeal to them. Let us contribute the necessary funds from among ourselves—each one giving what he can, according to his means. Thus shall we obtain the desired Cemetery, and show the world, as firemen have done elsewhere, that our comrades beloved in life, are also dear to us in death.

Editorial Correspondence.

Stockton, Feb. 11th, 1888.
The Stockton City Blues have determined to give a grand ball on Monday evening, 22d inst.—Every exertion will be made to render it a splendid affair. The committee having the matter in charge, consists of Charles P. Greenly, Esq., H. T. Compton, Esq., John D. Boyle, Esq., J. Gross, Esq., and R. G. Patterson, Esq. The ball is to take place at the City Hall. Invitations are to be extended to surrounding military companies.

Thomas R. Anthony, who has been cashier for Wells, Fargo & Co. for several years in this place, has been appointed agent for the office, vice Capt. W. H. Simmons, who, as I stated in my last, is to take charge of the Sacramento office.

The beautiful weather has still continued here, and the roads leading from the city are in fine condition. Passengers from all sections come in on the stages without any perceptible delay upon them, and excellent time is made by both lines.—I understand that when travel opens regularly for the dry season, fare will be materially reduced in stage travel. Some elegant new Concord coaches will also be placed on the various routes.

A rumor that Mr. and Mrs. John Wood are to commence an engagement in this place next week, has created considerable excitement, and you can already hear upon the street observations such as "who-oh, respecting a 'gallant young sinner' only fifteen years old."

Fourteen ladies, wives of residents of this place, were admitted to the secrets of Odd Fellowship on Monday evening last; the "Charity Lodge No. 6," and "Stockton City Lodge No. 11," uniting for that particular occasion. I have been informed that several of the ladies rode the "animal," very gracefully.

There is a Turn Verein Society in existence here, composed of German and Americans, which has been organized for the purpose of social amusement—gymnastic exercises, fencing and singing. They have a large hall over the St. Charles Hotel, where they hold their exercises. They also give every fortnight a select party, upon which occasion a theatrical performance takes place, the characters being personated by their own members.—Gymnastics, singing, and dancing also form part of the exercises. Of these amusements, the citizens here speak in the highest terms. The association is now making preparations to build a fine, spacious brick hall, in the centre of the city, which, according to their specifications, will be an ornament to the place, and a great benefit to the rising generation, as the Turners intend to establish a free gymnastic school, for the development of the mind and body, which, I am under the impression will be assisted to a great extent by the people here. The Turners also intend to organize a Rifle Company, which will add another fine company to the Military of the State. The following is a list of the officers of the Stockton Turn Verein: President, Charles Ernst; Vice President, D. Reibenstein; Treasurer, James H. H. Casler; A. Goldsmith; Secretary, E. Cameron; Cor. Secretary, M. Wagner; 1st Turn-Leader, Chas. Grunsky; 2d Turn-Leader, C. Manthey; Leader of Music, Joseph Walker; Economist or Property man, —Seifert.

The firemen here are endeavoring to procure a "Hall Bell," so that alarms may be answered with more promptitude. As it is now, the bell of the "Webers," is the only one to be relied on, and its tones cannot be heard far. There should be no delay in attending to a matter of so much importance.

The Board of Delegates held their regular meeting on Tuesday last, at which I was present by invitation. At the meeting, the proceedings of which the Secretary of the Department will forward you, the new State Law was presented, and after being read, was referred to a Committee of Three, and made the special order for Tuesday evening next. It is somewhat similar in its provisions to the law under which the firemen of San Francisco are acting. It provides for the election of a Chief by the firemen themselves, in case of a vacancy in the office, and requires a two-third vote of all the members of the Board, to decide upon constitutional decisions. It is made obligatory upon the Secretary of the Department, if elected from the Board, to resign as a delegate, so that a member of the Board cannot hold the position. It gives the Chief \$750 per annum, and the Secretary, \$350. The law will probably be increased. The law disqualifies any person or persons in the department, making charges against any officer or member, from sitting as a "Judge or Juror." What a commentary on the high-minded and honorable Board of Delegates of the San Francisco Fire Department. The law will doubtless become operative, as the citizens generally are in favor of it, and there will be but little opposition to it.

The "San Joaquin Engine Company No. 3," is an association composed with but one exception, of Germans. Their records however, are kept in English, and very neatly too. Within the past year the company have had a house built for them on the Avenue, in the construction of which the City Fathers have shown how much can be done with a very little. The Hall of No. 3, is very tastefully fitted up. An appropriation of \$200, would make the house have something of the appearance it ought to have.

The "Webers" are rather quiet at present.—The Foreman, P. B. Menter, has been away for several months. Mr. E. C. Andrews, has in the meantime filled his position. This company was first on the ground at the fire at Nestrath's Brewery, which fire by the way was most scientifically managed by the firemen here.

The "Eurobas" contemplate parading with the "Blues" on Washington's Birthday. A special meeting in regard to the subject is to be held.

The "Protection Hook and Ladder Company No. 1," is in a flourishing condition. This company is certainly honored in the department, as the President and Secretary of the Department, and the two Assistant Engineers, are from their ranks; but as it has been often remarked "you cannot have too much of a good thing."

Great activity prevails in and around Stockton, in the erection of private dwellings, some of which are in excellent good taste, while others again are entirely unfitted for the climate; that is, when the thermometer goes up above the top of the machine. One of the most sensible dwellings being erected is that of Col. R. Manning, the proprietor of the Weber House. It is of brick, two stories in height, forty feet front by about sixty deep, and stands in a lot three hundred feet front by one hundred and fifty deep. When finished, surrounded as it will be by fruit and other trees, it will be an ornament to the place.

I am extending this letter too far, and therefore will close; first returning my sincere acknowledgments for many courtesies shown me by Charles P. Greenly, Esq., Geo. H. Blake of No. 1, R. B. Lane of No. 2, M. Wagner of No. 3, E. B. Hart of the "Webers," and to the firemen, almost without exception, the President of the Department, the Chief and Sol. Pearson, included, Capt. Simmons, T. R. Anthony, and Isaac W. Elwell, of Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Express.

Express No. 1.—The plank in front of the engine house of No. 1, will be replaced at once as the sewer is completed. The company will be ready for service during the coming week.

Board of Delegates.

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Delegates was held at their Chambers City Hall on Wednesday evening, February 10th, 1888.

President F. Mahony in the Chair.
The Roll being called the following members answered to their names:

Messrs. Castree, T. J. Smith, Hanrahan, Lees, Hayes, Carter, Powell, Hossefross, Chase, Fletcher, Lane, Wilson, J. P. Smith, Gough, Bovee, Mount, Bidden, Toomey, Devos, Jones, Robbins, Whalen, Plum, Gordon, Ezekiel, Cobb, Mitchell, and President Mahony.

Absent, G. A. Parker.
Resignations of Messrs. D. Scannell, J. Ezekiel, R. A. Law and J. G. Dennison, as members of the Board, read and on motion accepted.

Credentials of Messrs. W. L. Ryckman, as delegate from Empire No. 1, vice D. Scannell resigned read, and on motion Mr. Ryckman invited to take his seat.

Credentials of J. P. Buckley as delegate from St. Francis H. & L. 3, vice J. Ezekiel resigned, read. On motion, Mr. Buckley invited to take his seat.

Credentials of J. Van Bokkelen as delegate from Sansone H. & L. 3, vice R. A. Law resigned read. On motion, Mr. Van Bokkelen invited to take his seat.

Credentials of M. Lynch as delegate from Young America 13, vice J. G. Dennison resigned, read.

On motion, Mr. Lynch invited to take his seat.

Messrs. Ryckman, Buckley, Van Bokkelen and Lynch, were then sworn, subscribed to the oath and took their seats.

The minutes of regular meeting of Jan. 7, 14, 15, 16, 18 and 28th, were read and adopted. Finance called, eight dollars.

Mr. Chase moved that the fine of Mr. Cutter be remitted. Adopted.

Mr. Hossefross moved that the fine of Mr. Mitchell be remitted. Adopted.

Mr. Gough moved that the Secretary make out the bills of fines against members of the Board who had resigned and send same to their companies.—Adopted.

Mr. Jones moved that the election of officers be further postponed until next regular meeting.—Adopted.

Application for Exempt Certificates from John Martin, Thos. A. Lane, F. Mahony, E. P. Buckley, R. C. Page, E. O. Wegener, Saml. Barrett, Geo. A. Orr, E. S. Spear, J. C. Caprine, W. F. Story, R. N. Van Brunt, J. Freeman, W. P. Edwards, W. O. Smith, R. A. Law, Jno. S. Ellis, Fred. Iken, Wm. S. O'Brien, Chas. S. Simpson, P. W. Van Winkle, E. B. Tompkins, Henry Fisher, W. H. Bovee, W. J. Gray.

On motion the above referred to Committee on Certificates.

Application from M. Fennell for a Duplicate Diploma Certificate.

Referred to Committee on Certificates.

Application for Diploma Certificates from Messrs. J. Kroemer, J. J. Kelly, G. W. Gibbs, H. O. Gough, Peter Goff, Geo. A. Moore, C. Sutz, R. J. Bunker, Thos. Kierigan.

On motion, the Secretary ordered to issue same if applicants are entitled to them.

Communications from Engine Co's Nos. 2, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, and H. & L. No. 2, read and ordered on file.

Mr. Jones moved that the action of No. 2, be concurred in by the Board. Adopted.

On motion Mr. Lees, the communication of No. 4, was referred back to the company. Adopted.

Mr. Hossefross moved, that no member be registered as expelled until the expiration of thirty days. The Chair stated, that a writ of mandamus had been served upon himself and the Secretary.

Mr. Hanrahan asked if a copy had been served upon any individual member.

The Chair said he did not know.

Mr. Plum asked if the President had taken any steps to answer the same.

Mr. Jones moved that they be received and placed on file.

After some debate.

Mr. Gough moved that the communication be received, and the Board attend court as a committee of the whole.

A protracted debate ensued when.

The Chief Engineer.

On Tuesday morning last Chief Engineer Whitney, through his counsel, appeared before the Fourth District Court, Judge Hager, and applied for a writ of mandamus to compel the Board of Delegates to declare the result of the election, and issue him his certificate of election. A writ of "alternative mandamus" was granted, returnable to a, or during the board to appear and show cause, why they should not be compelled to act in accordance with the prayer of the petitioner.

At the meeting of the Board held on Wednesday evening, President Mahony stated that copies of the writ had been served upon himself and the Secretary, and it was necessary to take some action on the subject. After a long and exciting discussion, a proposition was finally adopted, to appoint two committees of seventeen each, (which constitutes the entire board) with power to employ counsel, without expense to the board. Both parties will therefore be represented, and each side will have its advocates before the court.

We give the answer of the seventeen delegates, favoring the issuance of the certificate, to the mandamus.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT, FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT.
The People, on the relation of F. E. R. Whitney, vs.
The Board of Delegates S. P. Fire Department.

And now comes into court, Geo. H. Hossefross, D. H. Rand, D. W. Crane, I. W. Lees, G. W. Hayes, Chas. M. Chase, A. K. Fletcher, I. P. Smith, J. N. Wilson, W. H. Bovee, H. O. Gough, Geo. A. Parker, J. P. Buckley, H. A. Cobb, T. A. Mitchell, J. L. Van Bokkelen and Florence Mahony, seven in number, being members of the Board of Delegates of the Fire Department, vs.
The Board of Delegates S. P. Fire Department, and for answer to the petition of the relator in the above entitled cause, respectfully shew:

That they have not obeyed the mandate of this said court, for the reason that the said Board of Delegates is composed of thirty-four members, and that more than seventeen thereof, are necessary to constitute a majority for the purpose of carrying into effect any order of said board. That the above named seventeen members, ever have been ready and willing, to obey the mandate of this court, believing as they do that the relator was duly elected to the office of Chief Engineer of the Fire Department for the ensuing three years, and that they are willing now to declare the result of said election, and to give their relator his certificate. Yet, by reason of not having a majority of votes in said board to concur with them, they are forced to make answer in this wise: That your respondents further aver, that said Board of Delegates particularly heard the contest as to the election of Chief Engineer, which contest was filed before said board by James E. Nutman, claiming to be elected Chief, which contest after said patient hearing was not sustained by said board, and the result was that the relator was duly elected, and validated, wherefore the respondents above named aver that they are now and always were ready to obey the mandate of this court.

Geo. H. Hossefross J. N. Wilson
D. H. Rand W. H. Bovee
D. W. Crane H. O. Gough
I. W. Lees Geo. A. Parker
Chas. M. Chase J. P. Buckley
A. K. Fletcher H. A. Cobb
I. P. Smith J. L. Van Bokkelen
Florence Mahony

Sworn to before Henry A. Cobb and Geo. F. Knox Notaries Public, February 12th 1888.

From Our Regular Correspondent.
SACRAMENTO, Feb. 11th, 1888.

Editor Fireman's Journal.—Still another week and not a sign of an alarm. I reckon the citizens have come to the conclusion that as a whole we are not such a bad institution after all.

The general dullness in all kinds of business, extends to fire matters also, and I do not know hardly how to make even a respectable apology for a letter this week. I shall even have to forego my usual criticism upon Mr. Exempt, he begs me so beseechingly to let him alone, that I can't resist his appeal, for I always make it a rule not to strike a fallen foe.

I would respectfully enquire of the Wardens if the building on the site of the last fire, corner 3d and I streets is not being erected in direct violation of the ordinance; eight inch walls, are rather thin.

So I see here, in connection with their volunteers formed a debating society and elected the following officers: T. W. Reese, President; J. Spencer, Vice President; S. Richardson, Secretary; A. C. Bidwell, Treasurer. They hold their first meeting to-night, when I have heard they will discuss the following questions—Is it prudent for policemen to be members of the Fire Department. It is rumored that Miss F. H. will sustain the affirmative and C. C. H., the negative. H. & L. 2, also at their last meeting appropriated funds; for the purpose of increasing their library, they also passed a resolution, that their hall should be open every Friday evening for the recreation of the members. From this you will see that at least two of our companies are advancing instead of retrograding; so far as their behavior is concerned.

No. 6's house will have the roof on by Monday next, but the company do not intend occupying it until the arrival of their new engine, a rather unimportant period, but probably during the summer.

In my last I mentioned that a new set of delegates from Neptune House, demanded their seats in the Board, which request was referred to a committee; as considerable interest is felt as to the final result; some new points have come to light, during the past week. It is even said that the company disbanded and reorganized on the same evening.

In my opinion if this is the case, they are entitled to no delegates at all, but will have to apply for re-admission in the customary form, the same as a new company. However, we shall see. No. 1's hall promises to be the best, as many as 100 tickets have been deposited of carriage.

Es jumper and Neptune's carry are in the hands of the painter, and when finished, to be a Yankee phrase, will be as good as better. Hoping that before my next some news will turn up, drop down or be caught flying, any way, so that your correspondent may catch it, I remain, yours for ninety days without interest, J. LINGOLAY.

PENNSYLVANIA 12.—We understand that a committee has been appointed by Pennsylvania No. 12, to ascertain the probable cost of thoroughly repairing, and repainting their large spouting engine, with a view of laying the same before the Board of Supervisors, and endeavoring to secure an appropriation to complete the same. We cannot conceive a demand more just and reasonable. The engine of No. 12 has now been in service we believe, some three years, and no repairs but a few of the slightest nature, have been put upon her, the paint upon the box is cracking to a great extent, and it is imperatively necessary, that she should be immediately repainted. We do not know the amount necessary to complete the repairs, but are confident that the company will demand nothing but what is just and reasonable. The engine was imported by the company, and her cost borne by the members from their own private funds, and is the bounden duty of the corporation to at least keep her in repair.

The Monumental Company have already laid out their large engine which was purchased by them under similar circumstances, and will we understand, decline running her again, until an appropriation is made to thoroughly repair and repaint her. We trust that the Board of Supervisors will act in this matter with diligence. The safety of the Fourth Ward depends in a measure, upon the early presence on the ground of these two engines, and prudence alone should dictate their being immediately put in thorough repair.

On motion the Board adjourned.

From Our Boston Correspondent.

Boston, Jan. 4th, 1888.
Editor Fireman's Journal.—Since my last there has been quite a lively time among the firemen of Boston. In my last I spoke of the fight between Engine 12, and Hose 2, and that the affair would be investigated. Such was the case and the committee on fire department made a report, which states that a difficulty has long existed between the two companies, and on a previous occasion a fight took place between them which was investigated by the Board of Engineers. The report gives an idea of the companies meeting and also the fight. The evidence produced was of a very contradictory nature, each company alleging the other the assailant and in view of that fact, and also that the same companies were previously engaged in a fight, the committee recommended that for the credit of the city and the department, both companies should be disbanded, and an order to that effect was passed. The Board of Engineers stood out to one in favor of the action of the committee. You will perceive Mr. Editor, that the innocent members of each company faced the same as the guilty. The action is condemned by some and upheld by others; but I think the committee did wrong in cutting the heads off of men who did not know anything about the affair. It would not have been such a difficult task to ascertain who the guilty parties were. Padlocks now grace the front door of each house, no companies having yet been organized to take charge of the apparatus.

On Christmas eve, Webster Engine Co. No. 13, Capt. Tilton, located in East Boston, dedicated their new brick engine house, with appropriate ceremonies, and a supper. The house is built of brick, two stories in height, thirty-six feet deep and twenty five feet front. The lower room is devoted to the engine, and the upper part, for a hall. The cost was \$4,500, and it is a fine-looking engine house, even in Boston. At the supper table speeches were made and sentiments offered by a large number of guests, and the affair was one of credit to all concerned.

An attempt is now being made to abolish the annual parade of the fire department, an order to that effect having been passed by the Board of Engineers and sent to the City Government for their approval. This will suit of course a portion and be disliked by the remainder of the department. We believe in a parade of the department for a review, but not a prize trial, for the reason that if two companies happen to play nearly alike and one company gets a prize, there is a continual howling about smartness. We believe in abolishing that portion of the parade, but no more.

The Board of Engineers the past week have engaged in a beautiful undertaking which will bring upon them more curses than favors. They have been visiting engine, hose and hook and ladder houses, on week-day nights, and if members are found visiting, engaged perhaps in spending a few hours in conversation or reading, they first take their names, and then order every man out of the house. If a man does not go, he is liable to a discharge. The Engineers say they intend to stop the members from congregating at their houses, in the evening. Ain't this a beautiful state of affairs? How would you like to belong to such a model institution as the Boston Fire Department? Thank God, I don't. But the fact of it is, two-thirds of the members of the department are of that kind who don't know any better than to be kicked around in that style. It's the almighty dollar that does these things.

On Christmas eve, Tremont Engine Co. No. 12 gave their annual ball at Union Hall at which 1700 couples were present and enjoyed themselves finely. There was a large attendance of uniformed firemen and notwithstanding the 12's were disbanded, as being one of the rowdy companies, those present were of a different opinion, judging from the manner in which the company conducted their party.

Capt. Daniel Weston of Perkins Engine Co. No. 2, has resigned his command.

Abore you will perceive that I have made a few remarks in relation to the annual parade. Since writing that, the City Council have passed an order abolishing the parade and review of the department.

The Department, I can assure you, is getting along finely. A few days since a number of the members of Franklin Hose Co. No. 3, Capt. Jerome Nevins, got into a difficulty together at their house, and during the fracas, they gave the foreman an awful whipping, which confined him to his residence for several days. The Board of Engineers, got wind of the affair, put a patrol on the door, and in two days after the company was disbanded.

The total number of fire alarms in Boston, during the year 1887, 174, occurring as follows: In January 15, February 15, March 12, April 11, May 15, June 15, July 17, August 16, September 11, October 22, November 11, December 14. Of these were false alarms, occasioned by the signal boxes being opened with false keys or broken open. The number of alarms originating out of the city, was eight, and there were 17 alarms in East Boston which did not reach the city proper. The number of fires supposed to have been caused by incendiaries was 14. In the course of the year 75 fires were discovered by the police and extinguished by the firemen. The aggregate of loss amounts to \$169,430, and the insurances to \$141,200.

CHARLESTON.
The fire ladders of St. Little city are doing their share towards dancing this season. On Christmas eve, Washington Engine Company No. 5, held their annual ball at Washington Hall, at which there were 125 couples, including large representatives from all the companies in our department, besides others. There was also a delegation of New York firemen, consisting of Engineer John Decker, Capt. J. Wiley, and several members of Oceanus Engine Company No. 11. The boys enjoyed themselves finely.

On Christmas night, Howard Engine Co. No. 3, held their annual ball at Washington Hall, which was attended by about eighty-five couples. There were also a very large number of uniformed firemen, and everything connected with the party was conducted in good shape.

Hook and Ladder Co. No. 4, of this city, have had a new rack built, exactly of the same style as those used in New York City. It was built by Hittiger, Cook & Co., and painted by the foreman of the company, Enoch J. Clark. It is forty-three feet long from tongue to filler, carries 7 ladders, besides the usual number of hooks, rakes, axes, etc. It was completed on the 30th of Dec. and on that night the company gave a grand ball at the City Hall, at which 130 couples were present. The track occupied a conspicuous position at the head of the hall. On New Year's day, it was exhibited. The cost was \$800. The company have changed their name from "Harvard," to "Massachusetts."

The whole number of alarms of fire in Charleston during the year 1887, was 128, of which number, 38 were fires, small ones, 27 false alarms, and the remainder originated out of the city. The loss by fire was \$10,000; insurance, \$6,000.

ROXBURY.
During the year 1887, there were 53 alarms of fire in Roxbury, and the loss was \$27,635; insurance \$10,800.

On Friday evening, Jan. 1st, Torant Engine Co. No. 6, gave their annual ball, at Western Hall, Roxbury, at which 180 couples were present, including firemen from all the adjacent cities and towns.

CAMBRIDGE.
Chief Engineer Mason Davis, of the Cambridge Fire Department has made up his report to the 17th

of December, from which we learn that the whole number of alarms of fire were 96, of which 62 were fires; 12 were false, and 22 alarms from fires out of the city. The loss by fire during the year amounted to \$73,734; insurance, \$41,150. This Cambridge is a great place for fires.

At a late meeting of Cambridge Engine Co. No. 1, of Old Cambridge, the company was organized by the choice of the following officers: Foreman, S. Lenfest, Jr.; second do. H. M. Tyler; third do. Charles H. Bates; Clerk, B. F. Follansbee.

A. J. Jones has been elected an Assistant Engineer.

At one of the usual Saturday night alarms, Henry M. Bosworth an efficient member of Union Engine Co. No. 2, while on the way to a fire in Old Cambridge in a printing office, and while attempting to get off of a horse car while in motion, he fell, was run over and his leg horribly mangled, so that amputation was necessary. The firemen of this city are about getting up a concert for his benefit.

RED JACKET.
MAGUIRE'S OPERA HOUSE.—During the past week there has not been the slightest diminution in the number of attendants at the Opera House; and, indeed, we have no doubt that the production of the burlesque of "Cinderella" would have attracted larger audiences, had the Theatre been capable of containing them. The "Corsair" and "Cinderella" have been the attractions, the latter piece being produced for the first time on Wednesday evening, and proving the success of the season. It is difficult to realize that a play may be produced in a style of greater magnificence than was the "Invisible Prince" a week or two ago; but Mr. Maguire, with his usual energy and liberality, has successfully demonstrated the feasibility of such an undertaking, and "Cinderella" is the result. The scenery is superb, and the dresses, in the ball-room scene, were of more than regal splendor. Cinderella was represented by Mrs. Wood, who acted in her usual vivacious and inimitable style, causing a smile of pleasure and a word of commendation to come from the gloomiest of her auditors. The *pas de deux* by this lady and Mons. Schmidt was admirably executed, and very justly gained. As the Baroness Soloff, Mrs. Judah gained her usual tribute of applause, herself enjoying the mirth she created. The rest of the parts were excellently filled, and it would be needless for us to particularize where all would be so nearly perfect. We can advise our friends to visit the Opera House, while under the present management, without the fear of having our judgment questioned, and we can confidently rely upon the performances being fully equal to our highest praise. To-night, "Cinderella" will be repeated, and we have no hesitation in saying that its merits and success will induce the manager to continue it sometime longer.

From our Marysville Correspondent.
MARYSVILLE, Feb. 4th, 1888.

Editor Fireman's Journal.—After three weeks of silence, I again take the liberty to communicate to you the following items:

Never before, since Marysville became a city, has duller times been experienced than during the past month. Business is now beginning to improve, and we hope for better times.

We have been favored with a liberal share of alarms during the present month. On Monday evening, Feb. 1st, alarm caused by burning of camphene lamp on D street. At 7 o'clock Tuesday evening (2d), alarm from Yuba's bell; false—Wednesday evening (3d), 7 o'clock, alarm false Thursday morning, 10 o'clock, alarm caused by fire being discovered in a China house, corner First and B street; engines not in service. Three o'clock same morning, fire discovered in Haun Stables, E street; Warren Company stretched for service, but not required.

At the regular monthly meeting of Warren Engine Company held on Tuesday evening Feb. 2d, many important alterations were made in their Constitution. Among other things, they adopted the New York style of fire-cap. Messrs. J. Wilson & Son, of your city, will probably receive the contract to manufacture them.

I understand a resolution will be offered at the next meeting of the Board of Delegates, altering Section 5th of laws regulating the Fire Department to read as follows:

"Two members from each Engine, Hose, and Hook and Ladder Company shall be elected by each Company, at their last meeting in November, to constitute a Board of Delegates," etc.

This throws out the Engineers entirely. I fully agree with the gentlemen offering this resolution, believing the Engineers have no earthly right to seats in the Board, and do sincerely hope that resolution will pass unanimously.

I was, a few days since, shown a beautiful model of Mutual engine, whittled out of wood with a common jack-knife, the work of Mr. Mark K. Cassid which reflects credit on his skill and ingenuity.

Warren Engine Co. No. 4, will give a grand ball on the 22d of February, at the City Hall.

The Mutual Engine Company turned out for drill on Thursday evening, and done some pretty good work, notwithstanding their suction were out of order.

Yours truly,
CITIZEN.

